

ULTRA-REFRACTORY CALCIUM-ALUMINUM-RICH INCLUSION IN AN AOA IN CR CHONDRITE YAMATO-793261. M. Komatsu^{1,2}, T. J. Fagan², A. Yamaguchi^{1,3}, T. Mikouchi⁴, M. Yasutake^{1,3}, and M. E. Zolensky⁵, ¹SOKENDAI, Graduate University for Advanced Studies, Kanagawa, Japan (komatsu_mutsumi@soken.ac.jp), ²Dept. Earth Sciences, Waseda University, Japan, ³National Institute of Polar Research, Japan, ⁴Dept. Earth and Planetary Science, University of Tokyo, Japan, ⁵ARES, NASA Johnson Space Center, Houston, USA.

Introduction: CR chondrites are a group of primitive carbonaceous chondrites that preserve nebular records of the formation conditions of their components [e.g., 1;2]. We have been investigating a set of Antarctic CR chondrites from the Japanese-NIPR collection in order to study variations within this group. During our study, we have found an AOA that encloses an ultrarefractory (UR) CAI in Yamato-793261 (Y-793261). UR CAIs are rare in carbonaceous chondrites [e.g., 3], and only three UR CAIs in AOAs have been identified so far [3-5]. UR CAIs can provide information on crystallization processes at very high temperatures in the solar nebula. Here we describe the petrology of Y-793261, and preliminary results on this newly discovered AOA enclosing a UR CAI.

Methods: A polished thin section of Y-793261 was studied using SEM, EPMA, and Raman spectroscopy. Petrology and Raman characteristics are also compared to those from other CR chondrites and the primitive CO chondrite Y-81020, as listed in Table 1.

Imaging, mineral identification and quantitative analyses were performed using a JEOL JSM-7100F FE-SEM and JEOL JXA8200 EPMA at NIPR. Our Zr analyses may have been affected by an interference of Sc on Zr L α . We plan to determine the magnitude of this interference in future work, but the ZrO₂ data reported here are uncorrected and should be considered preliminary. Raman spectra were collected using a JASCO NRS-1000 Raman Spectrometer at NIPR. Raman analytical parameters were similar to those of [6].

Results and Discussion:

Petrography of Y-793261

CR chondrite Y-793261 is composed of chondrules, AOAs, CAIs, mineral fragments, and matrix. AOAs and CAIs are more abundant in Y-793261 than in other CR chondrites we have examined; eight AOAs are present in the Y-793261 thin section, whereas the other CR thin sections have only 0 to 2 AOAs (Table 1).

Previous work has shown that aqueous alteration in CR chondrites causes (1) variable replacement of metallic Fe-Ni by magnetite or sulfide and (2) formation of phyllosilicates along edges, fractures and twin boundaries of olivine and pyroxene [11]. In Y-793261, phyllosilicates occur in matrix and around some chondrules, but are rare inside chondrules. The minimal alteration of mafic phenocrysts suggests that Y-793261

is similar to weakly altered petrologic types 2.6-2.5 described in [11].

Maturation grade of organic material in Y-793261

Raman spectra were collected on randomly-selected matrix areas in thin sections. Raman spectra from CR chondrites in this study exhibit first-order carbon D- and G-bands at ~1350 and ~1600 cm⁻¹ respectively.

[4], [12] and [13] showed that I_d/I_g increases in petrologic type from 3.0 to 3.7 in CO/CV and unequilibrated ordinary chondrites (UOCs). Because the compositions of organic matter in CR and CV/CO are similar, Raman parameters can be used for interclass comparison to compare their metamorphic grades. The spectra collected for this study from CR chondrites including Y-793261 all show relatively low I_d/I_g, suggesting low thermal maturity, particularly in comparison with matured UOCs and CV chondrites (P.T.>3.6) (Fig. 1).

High temperature signature of AOA:

Eight AOAs are found in the thin section of Y-793261. All AOAs in Y-793261 show little evidence for secondary aqueous alteration or thermal alteration.

AOA #4 consists mostly of fine-grained olivine, which often encloses segregations of Al-diopside and anorthite in a texture typical of AOAs (Fig. 2c). In one of these segregations, Al-diopside is in contact with Sc-rich pyroxene and a Zr-rich phase, similar to Sc-Zr-rich phases observed previously in UR CAIs [e.g., 3]. The UR inclusion has a concentric texture with a Zr,Sc-rich pyroxene core surrounded by Sc-rich pyroxene.

Refractory high-Ca pyroxenes in AOA #4 contain 17-36 wt.% Al₂O₃ and 6-10 wt.% TiO₂. The high Al-contents suggest that tiny inclusions of corundum or another Al-rich phase may be present. Concentrations of Sc₂O₃ and ZrO₂ (uncorrected for possible interference) vary between 2 and 8 wt.% and are positively correlated, increasing from core to rim (Fig. 3a). These Sc₂O₃ and ZrO₂ concentrations in pyroxene are intermediate between higher and lower values identified in previous studies of several UR CAIs [3] (Fig. 3). Pyroxene from UR CAI 3N-24 from oxidized CV chondrite NWA 3118 has a range of ZrO₂ concentrations similar to that of AOA #4, but with lower Sc₂O₃ [3] (Fig. 3b). The presence of the UR inclusion indicates that condensation of AOA #4 started at higher temperature than other AOAs in CR chondrites.

Enrichment of SiO₂ at lower temperature:

AOA #4 also contains ~5 μ m sized, nearly pure SiO₂ grains with low-Ca pyroxene grains (Fig. 2d). It is not

clear whether the SiO_2 is crystalline or amorphous. In previous studies, pod-like SiO_2 grains were found in the chondrule margins in CR chondrite PCA 91082 [15]. [16] found that many Type I chondrules in CR chondrites contain silica-rich igneous rims (SIR), and suggested that SIR are formed either by gas-solid condensation onto chondrule surfaces and subsequent incomplete melting, or by direct condensation of $\text{SiO}_{(v)}$ into chondrule melts.

We have not observed SiO_2 grains in AOAs prior to this study. SiO_2 grains in AOA #4 occur with low-Ca pyroxene, suggesting formation at temperatures below typical olivine condensation temperatures [17]. AOA #4 in Y-793261 apparently preserves evidence of condensation at unusually high temperature (indicated by the UR CAI), combined with low-T interaction with gas (indicated by SiO_2 + low-Ca pyroxene).

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Table 1. Samples used in this study.

Name	Type	No. of AOAs ^a
Y-793261	CR2	8
Y-790112	CR2	not observed
Y-793495	CR2	not observed
Y-8449	CR2	not observed
Y-792518	CR2	not observed
A-881595	CR2(ungrouped C3?) ^b	2
Y-81020	CO3.0	37 ^c

^aNumber of AOAs found in one thin section. ^bA-881595 was originally classified as a CR2 chondrite [7], but re-classification as an ungrouped C3 has been suggested [8,9]. ^cUnpublished data from [10].

→ Fig. 3. ...from Efremovka, *HIB-11* from Murchison, *OSCAR* from Ornans [3 and references therein].

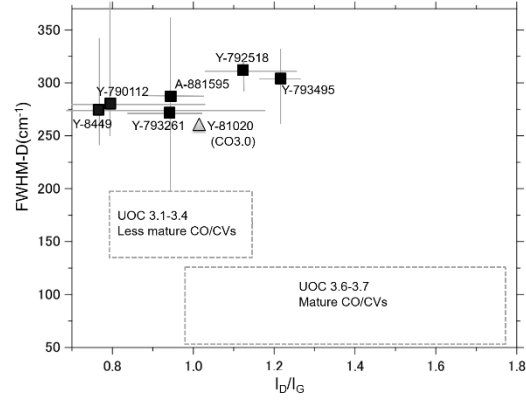


Fig.1. Spectral parameters of Raman bands of OMs in CR chondrites and Y-81020 in this study (after [4,13]).

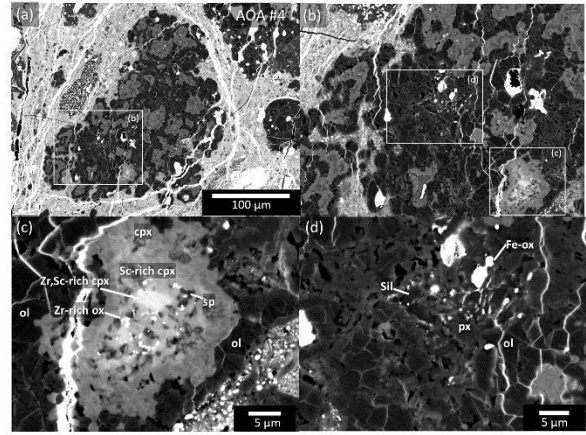


Fig. 2. BSE images of AOA #4. ol=olivine, cpx=high-Ca pyroxene, sp=spinel, Zr-rich ph=Zr-rich phase, Zr, Sc-rich cpx=Zr, Sc-rich high Ca pyroxene, Sc, Al-rich cpx=Sc, Al-rich Ca pyroxene.

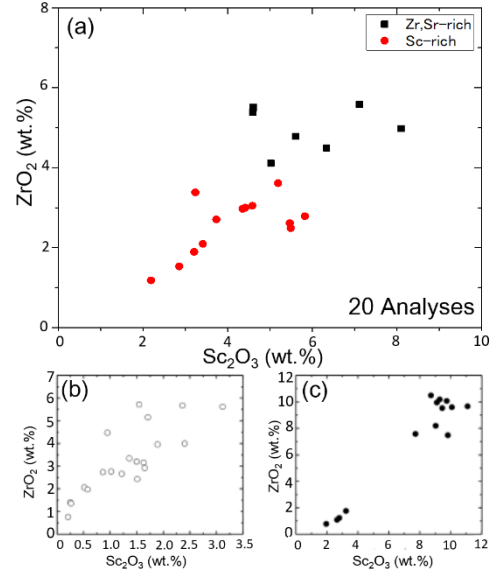


Fig. 3. Uncorrected ZrO_2 and Sc_2O_3 in pyroxene in UR CAIs from (a) AOA #4 (this study), (b) UR CAI 3N-24 from CV_{ox} chondrite NWA 3118 [3] and (c) 33E-1